

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Mark Blasdel, on March 27, 2017 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 303 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Mark Blasdel, Chair (R)
Sen. Roger Webb, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Scott Sales (R), Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch
Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 354, 3/22/2017

00:00:37 Chairman Blasdel

HEARING ON SB 354

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:22 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 354, Revise tobacco, nicotine, and tobacco product taxes for healthcare services.

EXHIBIT(tas63a01)

00:07:16 Chairman Blasdel

Proponents' Testimony:

00:09:06 Amanda Cahill, American Heart Association and American Stroke Association

EXHIBIT(tas63a02)

00:12:36 Ken Brown, Opportunity Resources Incorporated

00:15:41 Larry Vanhoy, self

00:18:54 Kyle Tharp, Opportunity Resources Incorporated

00:19:50 Gary Elliott, caregiver, Opportunity Resources Incorporated

00:22:36 Shyla Patera, North Central Independent Living Services

00:25:30 Mark Sanders, North Central Independent Living Services

00:26:17 Dr. Greg Holzman, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

00:31:19 Kelly Thompson, self

00:33:29 Dr. Keith Foster, Shodair Children's Hospital

00:35:42 Bruce Desonia, self

00:36:28 Kara Solan, self

00:37:21 Robert Shepard, New West Health Services

EXHIBIT(tas63a03)

00:43:24 Chelsia Rice, American Cancer Society

EXHIBIT(tas63a04)

00:46:40 Jeannie Gracey, self

00:47:05 Cooper Etgen, self

00:48:15 Casey Blumenthal, Montana Hospital Association

EXHIBIT(tas63a05)

00:50:24 Becky Franks, Cancer Support Community

00:52:19 Emma Otto, Cancer Support Community

00:53:10 Tyler Steinebach, Beacon of Hope Ambulance

00:56:04 David Eaton, Counterpoint Incorporated

00:58:20 Kathy McGowan, Montana Community Mental Health Centers

01:01:49 Joel Peden, Montana Independent Living Project

01:04:42 Tom Osborn, North Central Independent Living Services

01:05:49 Lori Swartz, self

01:07:55 David Condon, Family Outreach

01:09:06 Patrick Flaherty, Family Outreach

01:11:14 Kerry Dattilo, Quality Life Concepts
 01:11:39 Celesie Thompson, self
 01:12:05 Alicia Smith, self
 01:12:15 Kayla Harvey, Quality Life Concepts
 01:12:37 Justin Harvey, Quality Life Concepts
 01:12:50 Melanie Reynolds, Lewis and Clark County Public Health

EXHIBIT(tas63a06)

01:13:15 Bonnie Lorang, Montana Medical Association
 01:13:40 Sandy Oitzinger, self
 01:14:46 Matt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness Montana
 01:15:12 Kali Wicks, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana

EXHIBIT(tas63a07)

01:15:32 Aidan Myhre, Kalispel Regional Medical Center
 01:15:59 Kelly Jepson, Medicaid funded providers

EXHIBIT(tas63a08)

01:16:21 Glenn Oppel, Pacific Source Health Plans
 01:16:37 Morgan Smith, Montana Education Association and Montana Federation of Teachers
 01:16:54 Mike Mahoney, executive director, Family Outreach
 01:17:17 Claudia Clifford, American Association of Retired Persons of Montana
 01:17:33 Kristin Page Nei, American Cancer Society, Cancer Action Network

EXHIBIT(tas63a09)

01:18:10 Jim Ahrens, Montana Dental Association Area Agency on Aging, Montana Association of Naturopathic Physicians, Montana Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, and Montana Speech-Language-Hearing Association
 01:18:44 Jean Morgan, West Mont
 01:18:52 Fran Sadowski, Missoula Developmental Service Corporation
 01:19:12 Eve Franklin, Montana Association of Community Disability Services
 01:19:49 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center

EXHIBIT(tas63a10)

01:20:11 Charlie Briggs, Easterseals-Goodwill
 01:20:28 Jacquie Helt, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 775
 01:20:51 Beth Brenneman, Disability Rights Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

01:21:40 Robert Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

EXHIBIT(tas63a11)

01:24:11 Ronald Marshall, Freedom Vapes

EXHIBIT(tas63a12)

01:46:12 Deanna Marshall, Freedom Vapes

EXHIBIT(tas63a13)

01:57:24 Alex Davis, self

[EXHIBIT\(tas63a14\)](#)

02:00:49 Kenny Volk, self

02:06:11 Jeffrey Brewer, The Man Store

[EXHIBIT\(tas63a15\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tas63a16\)](#)

02:11:05 Keith Bowman, self

[EXHIBIT\(tas63a17\)](#)

02:17:49 Ronnie Fredrick, self

02:19:04 Ron Melgren, self

02:20:04 Ian Johnson, Freedom Vapes

02:21:15 Sean Glenn, Vaporology Vape Shop

02:22:21 Larry Grosvlek, 3Gs Stores

02:24:26 Mike Arlint, Glacier Wholesalers

02:25:22 Earl Allen, Noon's Food Stores

02:26:49 Scott Boulanger, Staples Law Firm

02:27:09 Brad Longcake, Montana Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Stores
Association

02:28:43 Brad Griffin, Montana Retail Association

02:29:08 Brent Mead, Montana Policy Institute

02:29:56 Jeremy Krouz, Freedom Vapes

02:30:06 Cody Rea, self

02:30:12 Theresa Marshall, Freedom Vapes

[EXHIBIT\(tas63a18\)](#)

02:30:39 Brandon Jones, Freedom Vapes

02:30:51 Rise' Grossman, Vapor Crazyiness

02:31:03 Tyrone Jackson, Freedom Vapes

02:31:19 Jessica Petroff, self

02:31:26 Toby Hall, self

02:31:35 Karma Peterson, self

02:31:42 Jake Dansie, self

02:31:49 Torry Savase, Vaporology Vape Shop

02:31:56 Jeremy Smith, self

02:32:04 Robert Cracraft, Vaporology Vape Shop

02:32:15 Andy Hardison, Liberty Vapor

02:32:27 Tommie Dobbs, Liberty Vapor

02:32:43 Tony Dobbs, Liberty Vapor

02:32:53 Haylee Davis, self

02:33:01 Jason Cornfeld, Old Skool Vape Society

02:33:11 Jeremy Frierson, Old Skool Vape Society

02:33:19 Jason Lura, Big Sky Vapor

02:33:28 Wesley Carroll, Vaporology Vape Shop

02:33:38 James Fredrick, self

Informational Testimony:

02:33:56 Kory Hofland, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)
02:34:25 Josh Poulette, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:34:42 Sen. Pomnichowski
02:35:35 Sen. Caferro
02:37:29 Sen. Pomnichowski
02:38:12 Sen. Caferro
02:38:42 Sen. Pomnichowski
02:39:20 Mr. Poulette, LFD
02:42:08 Sen. Pomnichowski
02:42:19 Mr. Poulette
02:43:08 Sen. Pomnichowski
02:44:02 Mr. Poulette
02:44:13 Sen. Pomnichowski
02:45:14 Mr. Hofland, DOR
02:46:02 Sen. Pomnichowski
02:46:14 Mr. Hofland
02:46:56 Chairman Blasdel
02:47:20 Sen. Barrett
02:48:44 Mr. Poulette
02:49:40 Sen. Barrett
02:49:56 Mr. Poulette
02:50:00 Sen. Barrett
02:50:46 Mr. Poulette
02:51:01 Sen. Cohenour
02:51:40 Sen. Caferro
02:53:18 Sen. McClafferty
02:53:44 Mr. Poulette
02:53:59 Mark Schoenfeld, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)
02:54:45 Chairman Blasdel
02:55:21 Mr. Schoenfeld, DOR
02:55:42 Chairman Blasdel
02:56:22 Mr. Schoenfeld
02:56:44 Chairman Blasdel
02:57:23 Mr. Holzman, DPHHS
02:57:32 Chairman Blasdel
02:58:13 Mr. Holzman

Closing by Sponsor:

02:58:42 Sen. Caferro
03:05:13 Chairman Blasdel

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:08 PM

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tas63aad.pdf](#))